

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1317**

June 15, 2021

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Rogers  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Armed Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Rogers:

I am requesting funding for Construction of a Base Civil Engineer Complex at the Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport in Springfield Illinois for the Air National Guard in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Illinois National Guard, located at 1301 N. MacArthur Boulevard, Springfield, Illinois 62702.

The funding would be used for construction of a 24,300 SF facility that consolidates seven poorly configured and deteriorating facilities into one BCE complex to support combat engineer training and the sustainment, maintenance, modernization and operations of the installation and it's two primary CRF and Air Operations Group Missions.

The 183d Wing's Base Civil Engineer (BCE) functions are housed in seven separate buildings on three sites at opposite ends of the base. The unit is forced to conduct "split drills" 20% of the year due to lack of space. Three BCE buildings (2, 3, and 47) do not meet Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection requirements. Two of the facilities are over 50 years old, designed to house other military functions, and are not suited for the BCE's mission. Lack of an integrated BCE complex generates span of control challenges, a loss of mission synergy and man-hours. All seven facilities have high operating and maintenance costs and are energy inefficient. Their mechanical systems are approaching the end of their useful life cycle and two of the buildings have compromised building envelopes resulting in poor occupant comfort.

The 183 Wing has completed the design of the BCE Complex and has 100% construction documents that are ready for bidding. The 183 Civil Engineer Squadron and 183 Contracting Office are ready and willing to execute this construction contract when able to award.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress